

# ZEVENBERGEN GENEA GROWTH EQUITY REVIEW & PERSPECTIVE

Breathe In, Breathe Out: Broad indexes staged a considerable reversal from 1Q25 bear market woes with several reaching or approaching new market highs during the quarter. In hindsight, "Liberation Day" on April 2<sup>nd</sup> marked a year-to-date bottom in sentiment, as stocks rallied upon the U.S. administration's subsequent decision to delay reciprocal tariffs with most trading partners. Diminishing fears of stagflation, along with strong corporate earnings and resilient consumer spending, compelled a rotation from "safe havens" (such as dividend paying stocks and fixed income securities) back into risk-oriented assets. Further momentum was supported by a wide range of companies issuing better-than-expected financial outlooks, a sign that demand trends and profit margins may endure elevated uncertainty. Management teams, battle-tested by recent market volatility, have displayed an intense focus on variables under their control, such as hiring, product development, and capital allocation. This operational discipline should position these companies well, if and when operating conditions become clearer. The Zevenbergen Genea Growth Equity Strategy performance reflected an increased investor appetite for growth equities and outperformed its Russell 3000® Growth benchmark for the quarter. Notably, all portfolio companies generated positive quarterly returns, with the greatest contributions to performance from industrials, technology and consumer discretionary. Select holdings in technology and real estate notched the smallest gains.

Top 5 Contributors 2Q25										
Ticker	Company		Average Portfolio Weight							
AXON	Axon Enterprise, Inc.		8.78 %							
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation		8.20 %							
MELI	MercadoLibre, Inc.		8.78 %							
NFLX	Netflix, Inc.		5.32 %							
TSLA	Tesla, Inc.		8.83 %							
		Top 5 Total	39.91 %							

Bottom 5 Detractors 2Q25								
Ticker	Company	Average Portfolio Weight						
Z	Zillow Group, Inc. Class C	3.23 %						
MDB	MongoDB, Inc.	0.83 %						
IOT	Samsara Inc.	1.33 %						
RIVN	Rivian Automotive, Inc.	0.76 %						
BE	Bloom Energy Corporation	0.75 %						
	Bottom 5 Total	6.90 %						

The holdings identified do not represent all the securities purchased, sold, or recommended. Reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified were or will be profitable. This material is for informational purposes only.

### **Contributors:**

### Axon Enterprise, Inc. (AXON):

The public safety technology company Axon Enterprise, Inc. reported 31% year-over-year revenue growth, with solid performance across software and hardware offerings. Management spoke to a robust sales pipeline as governments, and increasingly businesses, view public safety as an ecosystem, requiring comprehensive suites of technology (solving potential integration headaches) that offer attractive returns on investment. Despite Department of Government Efficiency budget cut worries, the U.S. federal government presents an attractive long-term sales opportunity. Given the strength of improving fundamentals year-to-date, the company raised its 2025 revenue and operating profit targets. Management called out strong interest in their AI offerings, including real-time language translation for field officers wearing the company's body cameras.

#### **NVIDIA Corporation (NVDA):**

The Al-enabler NVIDIA Corporation increased revenue 69% from a year ago and remains the leading provider of accelerator chips and systems used in machine learning software development. Ahead of the earnings report, analysts expressed concern about the ramifications of adverse trade relations between the U.S. and China, particularly for semiconductors. Out of prudence, management wrote-off over \$5 billion worth of product designed for the Chinese market. Founder-CEO Jensen Huang expressed willingness to work with both U.S. and Chinese regulators on a viable resolution noting that approximately half of the world's Al researchers are either based in China or are of Chinese heritage, underscoring the global scale and interdependence of Al development. Huang also remarked that U.S. national security interests are best served when American companies play a leading role in supplying the foundational infrastructure of innovation, a view that aligns with NVIDA's strategic positioning in the global Al landscape. Although NVIDIA's China business is in flux, the company's latest Blackwell product architecture is fielding significant demand from enterprises and sovereign entities around the world. The proliferation of Al agents (akin to digital labor) could support sales of the company's Al infrastructure over time.

#### MercadoLibre, Inc. (MELI):

Latin America's leading e-commerce and FinTech company MercadoLibre, Inc. delivered another robust quarter, with consistent execution resulting in significant year-over-year revenue and earnings growth (37% and 44%, respectively). The company has remained largely unaffected by ongoing global trade discussions, showcasing its resilience and strategic progress in a dynamic region. The market leader stands to potentially gain further share as foreign competitors are forced to navigate increasingly complex trade policies. MercadoLibre continues to invest from a position of strength by leaning into free-shipping and FinTech initiatives in regions characterized by low credit penetration and improving economic conditions.

## **Detractors:**

#### Zillow Group, Inc. (Z):

Online real estate company Zillow Group, Inc. saw relatively flat stock performance for the quarter, despite mostly solid fundamental execution. While the company continues to navigate a housing market pressured by mortgage rates and limited supply, the standout story for the year has been the growth in Zillow's rentals segment. The company has successfully scaled its multi-family portfolio to over 60,000 properties and total segment revenues (now 20% of company revenue) are projected to accelerate to a 40% growth rate for the full year. The company continues to position itself as a housing "Super App", prioritizing high-quality partnerships and services to reduce friction in transactions and drive outsized participation in any housing recovery.

#### MongoDB, Inc. (MDB):

Shares of database management company MongoDB, Inc. contributed less to strategy performance largely because of the company's perceived sensitivity to macroeconomic headwinds relative to other software peers. This perception stems from MongoDB's consumption-based pricing model, in which customers can immediately scale back their platform usage in response to economic pullbacks, whereas with seat-based models, customers are typically locked into predefined contract periods. MongoDB also has substantial exposure to small and medium-sized businesses, which tend to be more impacted by economic downturns relative to large enterprises with deep pockets. While the macro headwinds may be short-term in nature, the position was sold to fund more attractive growth opportunities.

#### Samsara Inc. (IOT):

Although fleet management software provider Samsara Inc. delivered better-than-expected quarterly results and held a constructive Investor Day, shares relatively underperformed during the quarter. Amidst a challenging macroeconomic environment, concerns around the company's exposure to cyclical end-markets (transportation, construction) tempered investor optimism. However, Samsara's 98% recurring revenue rate, as well as multi-production adoption by 85% of its core customers, should not be underappreciated. The platform's "stickiness" can be attributed to the company's ability to drive reductions in customer fuel, maintenance, insurance and incident costs, thus generating substantial value for users. With opportunities to expand into new geographies, use cases, and asset categories, Samsara remains well-positioned to drive future growth.

# Perspective:

With Eyes Wide Open: Equity markets displayed impressive resilience during headline turmoil so far this year, rebounding from early-quarter lows to reach or approach all-time highs by quarter end. Durable trends in economic hard data (GDP, unemployment, inflation) and corporate earnings have largely outweighed stressed soft indicators (consumer sentiment at historic lows). Whether this dynamic holds is uncertain, as the implications of evolving trade, economic, and monetary policy remain unclear. Forecasting each macro data point and news headline is often a futile exercise, as shocks that rattle or ignite markets are typically just that - major surprises few saw coming. This reality underscores ZCI's steadfast commitment to focus research efforts on the long-term trajectories of companies. Management teams will always face shifting landscapes, but through forward-thinking ambition and adept day-to-day execution, corporate outcomes become increasingly shaped by internal levers rather than external forces. Given the accelerating pace of change and volume of discourse, we urge investors to sift the 24-hour news cycle through a colander of long-term optimism and anchor their sights on the ultimate fundamental drivers of shareholder returns: revenue, earnings, and free cash flow growth.

### Zevenbergen Genea Growth Equity Composite Performance

Returns as of 06/30/2025	2Q 2025	YEAR TO DATE	ONE YEAR	THREE YEAR*	FIVE YEAR*	TEN YEAR*	SINCE INCEPTION^*
Zevenbergen Genea Growth Equity (Gross of Fees)	34.5%	15.0%	42.0%	34.8%	12.6%	20.2%	15.7%
Zevenbergen Genea Growth Equity (Net of Fees)	34.2%	14.5%	40.6%	33.5%	11.5%	19.0%	14.6%
Russell 3000® Growth	17.6%	5.8%	16.9%	25.1%	17.6%	16.4%	11.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Annualized Return ^02/28/1994

#### **Important Disclosures**

Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal and fluctuation of value. The strategy typically contains high growth companies of any market capitalization, which can exhibit substantially greater volatility than the stock market as a whole due to its sector-specific focus, leading to increased volatility compared to the Russell 3000® Growth Index.

The information presented relating to portfolio holdings is from a representative account in the Zevenbergen Genea Growth Equity Composite (Strategy), which reflects the typical portfolio management style of the strategy. Other accounts in the strategy may vary due to assets, client guidelines, and other factors. The Strategy contains fully discretionary, tax-exempt, taxable, fee-paying accounts managed in the Zevenbergen Genea Growth Equity investment style. The Strategy is capital appreciation characterized by concentrated portfolios (generally 20-40 securities) and limited income generation and is generally fully-invested at all times. The Strategy exhibits sector concentration, investing in growth companies with an emphasis on technology and telecommunications industries. Portfolios in the Strategy typically invest in high-growth companies which at times can exhibit substantially greater volatility than the stock market as a whole. The Russell 3000® Growth Index (Benchmark) serves as the performance benchmark due to its alignment with ZCl's initial security selection universe, along with its growth characteristics, capitalization ranges, and growth industry exposures. The Benchmark measures the performance of those Russell 3000 Index companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Strategy inception date is February 28, 1994.

The S&P 500 Total Return Index is comprised of the top 500 U.S. corporations measured by their market capitalization and is generally considered representative of the U.S. equity market.

The NASDAQ Composite Index is a market capitalization-weighted index that includes almost all stocks listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange. It covers more than 3,000 stocks, both domestic and international, and is heavily weighted towards the technology sector.

#### Performance data quoted represents past performance; past performance does not guarantee future results.

All returns are net of transaction costs and reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. Gross of fees performance is shown prior to the deduction of realized management fees, and composite net of fees performance reflects the deduction of a model management fee of 1.00% applied monthly. Foreign withholding taxes and other expenses may be incurred in the management of an account which will reduce all returns. Actual investment advisory fees incurred by clients may vary. All composite returns presented are time-weighted and reflective of realized and unrealized gains and losses. ZCl's standard fee schedule for separately managed accounts begins at 1.00% for both Wealth Management and Institutional clients. Advisory fees are further described in Part 2A of ZCl's Form ADV. Unless otherwise noted, performance for the referenced indices do not include investment management fees, brokerage commissions and other expenses associated with investing in equity securities.

Investors should recognize the limitations inherent in composites and should consider all information regarding the firm's investment management capabilities.

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